



## Private Credit Market Update

June 28, 2022

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Please email events@harbourvest.com with any questions.

### Private credit: key takeaways



- > Private credit market overview
  - Global private credit fundraising trends
  - Private credit growth relative to other financing markets
- > Impact of inflation on the credit market
  - Impact of inflation and rising rates on deal activity
  - Performance of the asset class during inflationary/rising interest rate environments
  - Enhanced focus on three key industries during inflationary periods
  - Historical loss ratio for credit during turbulent periods
- > Key considerations for investors and managers in private credit
  - Returning to basics



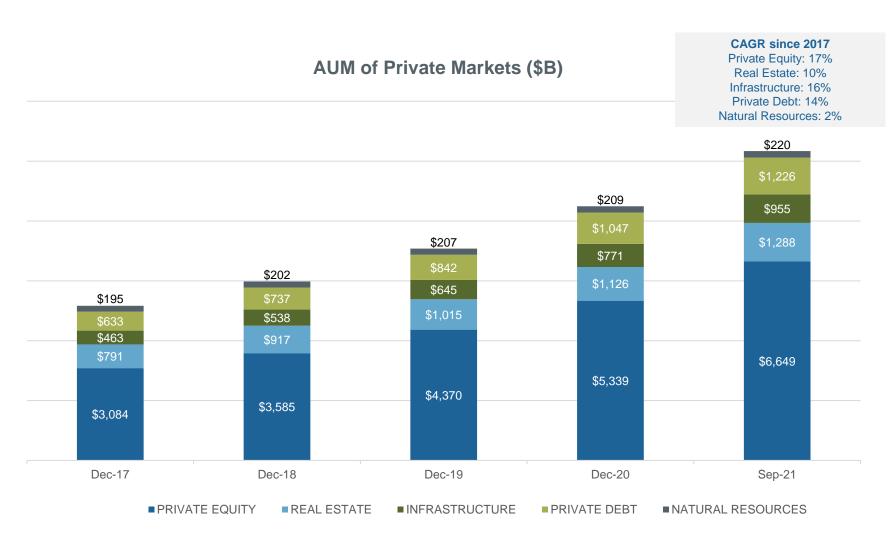


**Private Credit Market Overview** 

# Private markets have experienced double digit growth over the last 5 years



The private credit market is estimated to be \$1.2-\$1.6 trillion in size and continues to grow



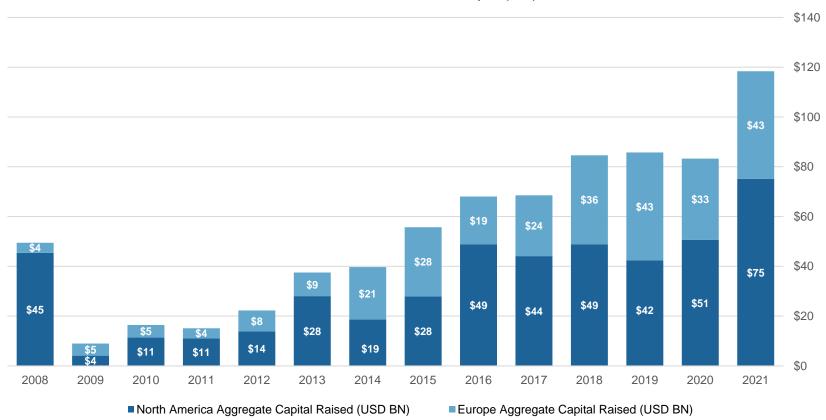
## Global private credit fundraising set a record in 2021



The average fund size in both the US and Europe crossed \$1B for the first time

### **Private Credit Fundraising**

North America and Europe (\$B)



Source: Pregin. Private Credit includes all Direct Lending and Mezzanine Funds. As of December 31, 2021

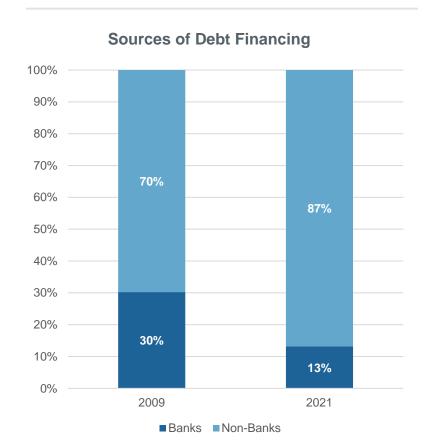
# Dry powder of private equity funds remains 4x that of private credit paving the way for future demand



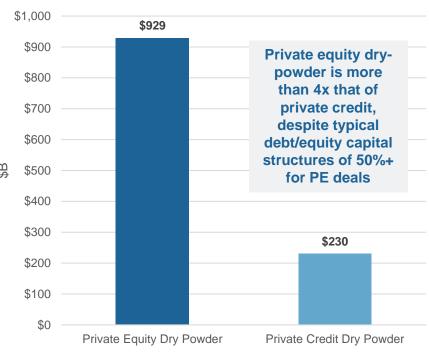
Private credit growth has been driven by share-gains from banks and increased private equity activity. Despite the rapid growth, current dry-powder suggests a significant funding gap remains.

Non-Bank lenders continue to provide the majority of financing supply for middle market lending globally

Increased demand for Private Equity financing to support buyouts



## US / Europe Private Credit Funding Gap As of December 2021

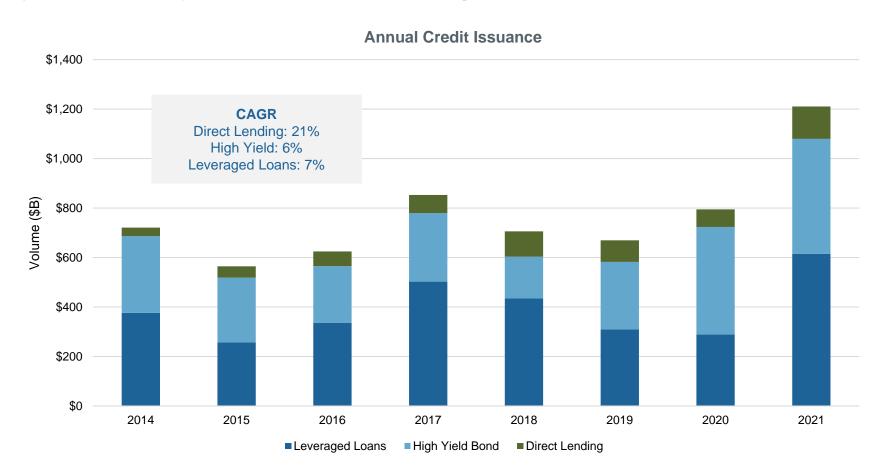


Source: S&P LCD Quarterly Q4 2021, PitchBook, as of December 31, 2021. Funding gap assumes a 50/50 split between debt and equity financing.

# Private Credit has grown 3x as fast as the other financing sources for private equity managers



Direct lending has grown faster than comparable credit asset classes, validating its acceptance by the market as a preferred form of credit financing



Source: S&P LCD, Refinitiv. As of December 31, 2021.

# Speed, scale and flexibility are the key drives of the growth for direct lenders



Direct lenders continue to take market share from the syndicated loan market; expanding the opportunity set for private credit providers

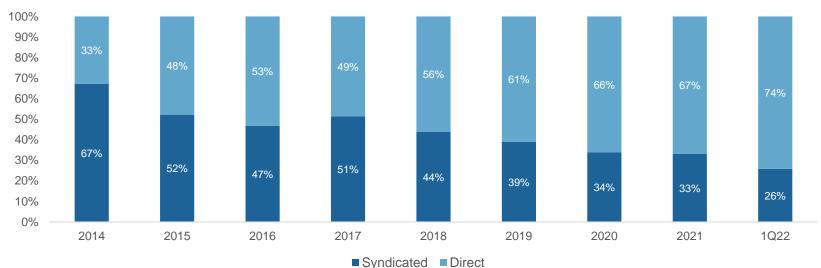
#### **Benefits for Investors**

- > Less volatile than public markets
- > Resilience across market cycles
- > Better outcomes in a workout; higher recovery rates
- > Illiquidity premium

#### Benefits for Issuers / PE Owners

- > Certainty and speed of execution
- > Privacy and less public disclosure
- > Expanding hold sizes (\$3B+)
- > Fewer counterparties

### Annual MM Sponsored Loan Volume (\$B)



Source: Refinitiv LPC 1Q 22 Private Deals Analysis

## Large \$1B financings + are creating an even larger market for direct lenders



### The number of \$1B+ unitranche loans increased substantially in 2021

- 20 \$1B+ unitranche loans issued it 2021 vs 4 in 2020
- Two \$3B+ unitranche loans issues in the second half of 2021
- "Megatranche" loans accounted for nearly \$40B of total 2021 unitranche volume

### **Five Recent Large Unitranche Investments**

Issuer	Size	Lenders		
The Ardonagh Group	\$2.4B	HPS, CDPQ, KKR		
Calypso Technology	\$2.3B	Owl Rock		
Galway Insurance	\$3.4B	Antares, Ares, Golub, KKR, HPS		
Inovalon Holdings	\$2.8B	Blackstone		
Stamps.com	\$6.6B	Ares, Blackstone, PSP, Thoma Bravo		





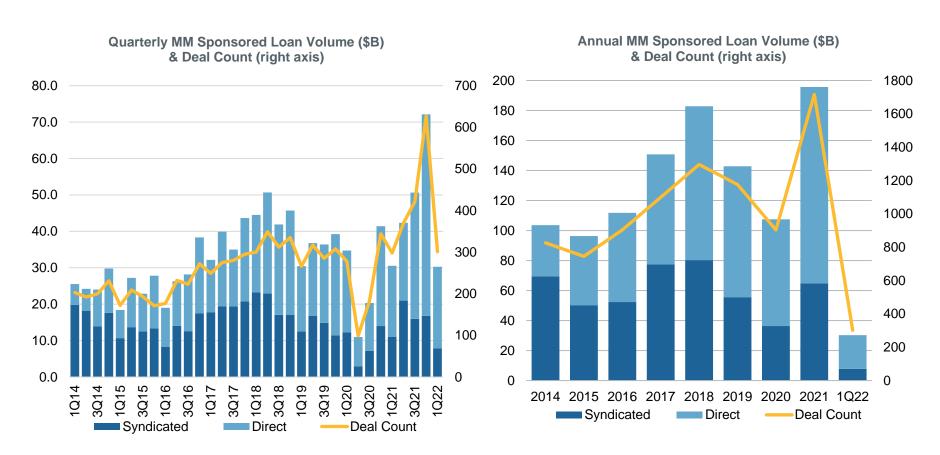
Impact of inflation on the private credit market

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## Inflation and market volatility have impacted the total deal volume in the market



Total sponsored issuance (syndicated and direct) dropped 58% from 4Q21 but was on par with 1Q21. Syndicated volume dropped 29% from 1Q21, while direct lending increased 15%.



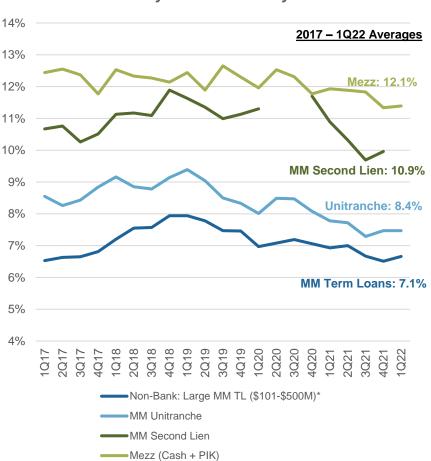
Direct lending market share has increased every year since 2014 except for 2017

## Private credit benefits from floating rate instruments while loan to values are still at all-time lows

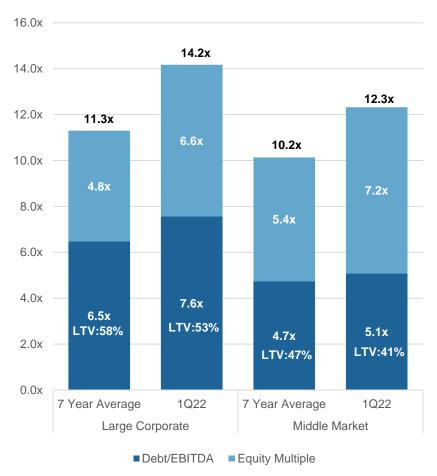


Private credit yields have remained consistent given floating rate nature while loan to value's have decreased given rising asset prices in the private markets

### Quarterly middle market yields



### **Purchase Price Multiple for LBO Deals**



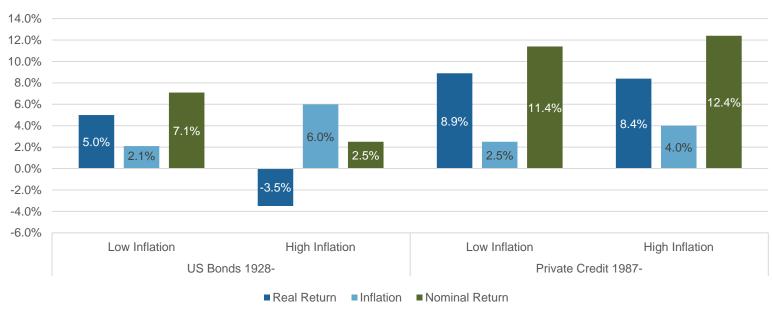
Source: Refinitiv LPC 1Q22 Private Deals Analysis.

# Private credit returns during inflationary periods has outperformed that of US bonds



US Bonds yielded negative real returns in inflationary environments, while private credit has shown higher resiliency (on a shorter time frame)

## Real and Nominal Return of Select Asset Classes in Both High and Low Inflation Environments %



Source: KKR "Regime Change Enhancing the Traditional Portfolio".

Using annual total returns from 1928 to 2021 for US Bonds and from 1987 to 2021 for Private Credit. Real returns calculated as [(1+nominal return)/(1+Y/y Inflation) -1]. Inflation component of the asset class return calculated as the difference between nominal and real return over the given time period. Private Credit modeled using the Burgiss Private Credit All Index. Bonds modeled using a mix of 50% US T.Bond and 50% Baa Corp Bond annual returns, computed historically by Professor Damodaran (NYU Stern).

## The correlation of private credit has a negative correlation to US Bond index



Asset classes with lower dependence on growth and superior inflation properties could act as "risk off" beneficiaries. Private credit has fixed income qualities but the least correlation to US Bonds.

From 06/30/76 to 12/31/21	US Public Equities	US Bond Aggregate	Real Estate (NPI)	Infra- structure (Burgiss)	Private Debt (Burgiss)
US Public Equities	1.00	0.11	0.15	0.50	0.74
US Bond Aggregate	0.11	1.00	-0.11	-0.06	-0.23
Real Estate (NPI)	0.15	-0.11	1.00	0.48	0.26
Infrastructure (Burgiss)	0.50	-0.06	0.48	1.00	0.67
Private Debt (Burgiss)	0.74	-0.23	0.26	0.67	1.00

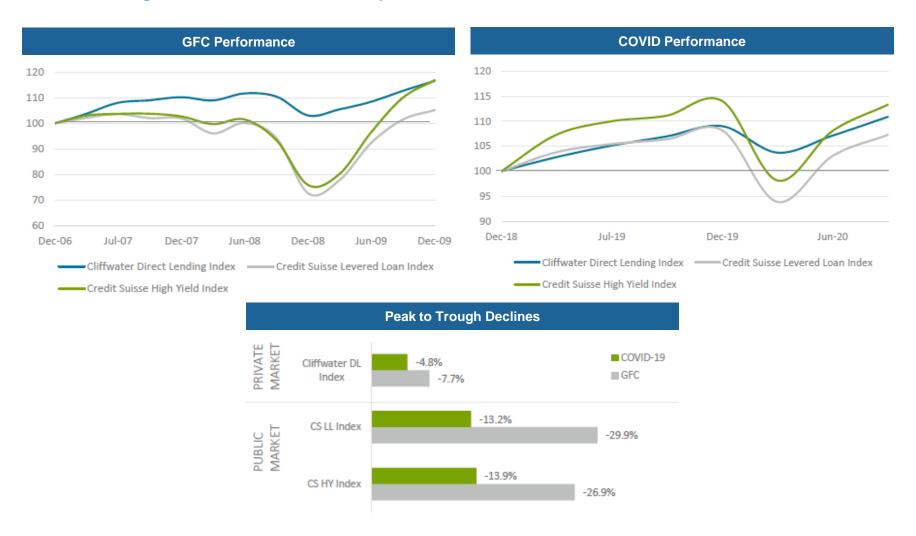
Sources: KKR "Regime Change Enhancing the Traditional Portfolio".

Portfolio returns and volatility modeled using annual total returns from 1928 to 2021 for the S&P500, from 1978 to 2021 for Real Estate, from 2004 to 2021 for Infrastructure, from 1928 to 2021 for Bonds, and from 1987 to 2021 for Private Credit. Assumes continuous rebalancing of the portfolios. US equities modeled using the S&P500 Index. Bonds modeled using a mix of 50% US T.Bond and 50% Baa Corp Bond annual returns, computed historically by Professor Damodaran (NYU Stern). Real Estate modeled using the NCREIF Property Levered Index. Private Infrastructure modeled using the Burgiss Infrastructure Index. Private Credit modeled using the Burgiss Private Credit All Index.

## Resilience of private debt through crises relative to other fixed income asset classes



### Direct lending has exhibited low volatility in both the GFC and COVID environments



Source: Cliffwater as of Q4 2020.

Syndicated loans data is based on the Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index; High yield bonds data is based on Credit Suisse High Yield Index; Direct Lending data is based on Cliffwater Direct Lending Index

## Industry selection is a key pillar to risk mitigation



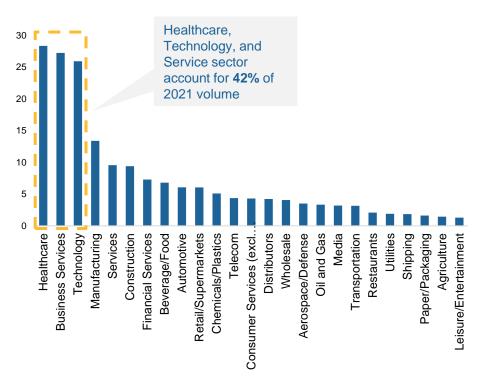
Private credit is heavily weighted towards healthcare and technology and services which are defensive, non-cyclical industries with attractive attributes (market stability, revenue visibility, and cash flow)

## historical default rates in the leveraged loan market

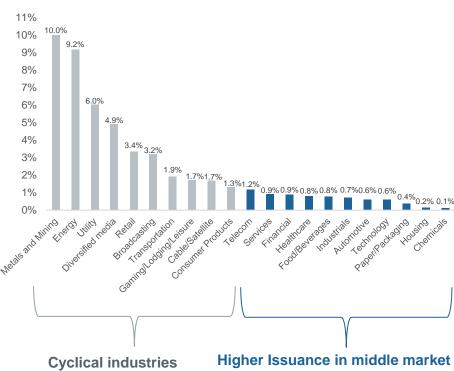
Little to no exposure to the industries that have had the highest

Minimize exposure to deep cyclicals, energy, commodities, retail, restaurants, utilities, etc.

### 2021 Middle Market Loan Volume by Industry (\$B)



## JPM Leveraged Loan Monitor Avg default rate by Industry Last 10 years

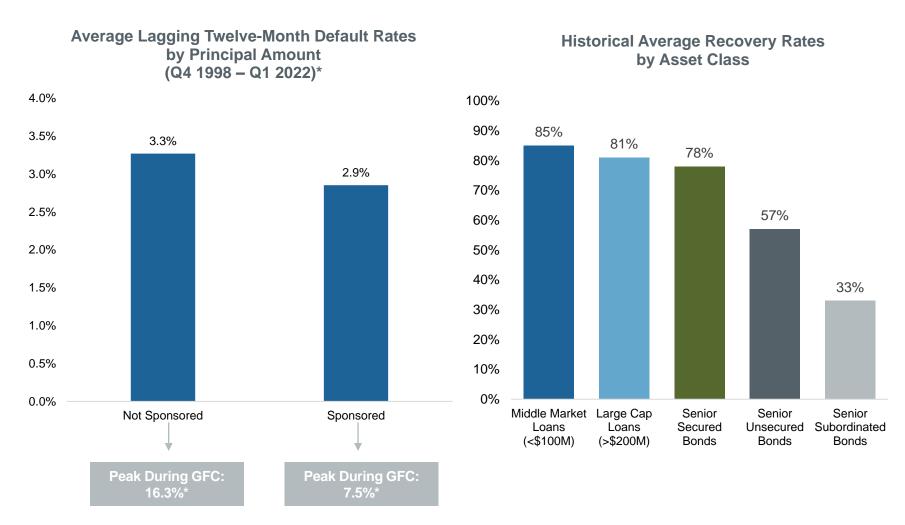


Source: Refinitiv's Q421 Private Deals Analysis & JP Morgan Leveraged Loan Monitor

# Middle-market loans offer downside protection and recovery rates compared to other asset classes



### Sponsored deals exhibited much lower default rates than unsponsored during the GFC



<sup>\*</sup> Source: S&P LCD (Q1 2022). Based on loans in the S&P/LSTA Leveraged Loan Index. Peak during GFC data represents maximum default rates during 2008-2010 time period.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Source: Pension Consulting Alliance (March 2018). Based on S&P Credit Pro data. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.





How GPs and LPs are approaching the market

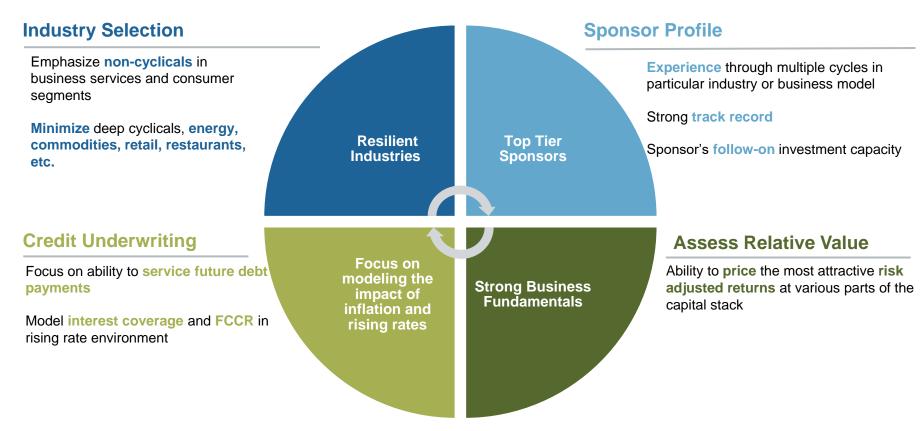
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## Key considerations in today's market



It is critical for Private Credit manager's to be focused on:

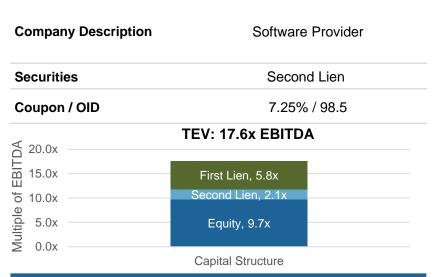
- 1. The industries they are investing in
- 2. The sponsors they are completing transactions with
- 3. The companies they are underwriting
- 4. The relative value of each investment opportunity



Source: HarbourVest.

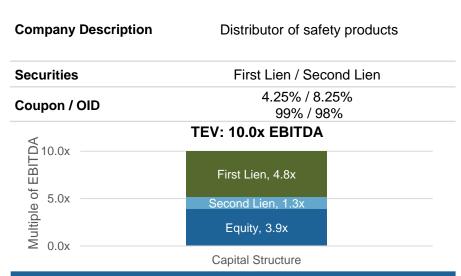
## Case studies: underwriting focus in uncertain markets







- > Recurring revenue
- > Diversified customer base
- Positive industry tailwinds
- > Attractive relative value
- Calibrated asset with strong GP ownership
- > Competitive differentiation
- > M&A execution & integration



#### **Underwriting Considerations**

- > Brand equity
- > Low cost, high cost of failure products
- Stable demand drivers
- > Strong free cash flow generation
- > Commodity risk
- > Cyclicality
- Concentrated distributor base
- > M&A execution & integration

## Outlook for private credit in 2022



#### PRIVATE CREDIT HAS STRONG DRIVERS OF DEMAND

- > Steady growth of private markets
- > Significant amount of PE dry powder (4x that of Private Credit)
- > Direct Lending is gaining share based on scale, flexibility and execution



- > Deal activity has been reduced
- > Floating rate instruments in private credit are enhancing absolute and real return
- > Private credit has outperformed many asset classes during high inflationary periods

### PRIVATE CREDIT REMAINS ATTRACTIVE

- > Performance of the private credit has been resilient during past cycles
- > Investable universe and market opportunity increasing in key industries
- > The middle market provides key downside protection

#### THE CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS CAN BE NAVIGATED

- > Selectivity to construct portfolios of high-quality borrowers hedges against inflationary pressure
- > Key credit underwriting and sourcing capabilities will be tested









## ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Additional important information



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